REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending and stand ready for further action on the merits.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite the presence of 0.1-10 w/w% of an oxidizing agent. Support for this amendment can be found in claim 6. Claims 6 and 19 have been amended to delete the subject matter now found in claim 1. Support for new claims 21-22 can be found in page 1, lines 22-25 of the specification.

No new matter has been added by way of the amendment to the claims.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact **Garth M. Dahlen, Ph.D., Esq.,** (Reg. No. 43,575) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

Ву____

Jøhn W. Bailey, #32,881

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

JWB/GMD/bmp/m

2993-0115P